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Farmers' Income Averages \$465.

Burlington, Vt.—The average net income of the American farmer will be less than \$465 this year, Gray Silver of Washington, D. C., representing the American Farm Bureau Federation, said in an address at the annual meeting of the Vermont Farm Bureau Federation here. He declared that the national organization, with 1,500,000 members, 2,000 county organizations and many thousands of community centers representing more than \$80,000,000,000 invested, was now in the "throes of distress."

Gen. Wood Remains in Philippines.

Washington.—Maj. Gen. Leonard Wood, governor general of the Philippine Islands, has decided to remain at his present post and not to accept the offer made by the University of Pennsylvania to be the provost of that institution, according to information received here by administration officials. War Department officials declined to make formal announcement of General Wood's decision.

HARDING PROPOSES RELIEF FOR FARMERS

Reduction in Freight Rates is Necessary to Save Agriculture, Says President

SALIENT POINTS IN MESSAGE.

The recommendations of President Harding in his message to Congress included:
Steps must be taken to prevent strikes.
Announcement that a conference of governors would be called here to discuss prohibition enforcement.
Greater credit facilities for agriculture and live stock interests.
Abolition of the railroad board and substitution of a labor division of the interstate commerce with power to enforce its decisions.
Pooling of freight cars.
The merger of railroad lines.
Adoption of a constitutional amendment to abolish child labor.
Adoption of a constitutional amendment to restrict the issuance of tax-exempt securities.
Approval of a proposal for the survey of a plan to draft all resources of the country, human and material, for national defense.
Attention to the super-power survey of the eastern industrial region.
Registration of immigrant aliens and establishment of immigration boards abroad to bar undesirable.
Extension of reclamation and irrigation work.
Conservation of forests.
Attention to the wide difference between the cost of production and retail prices.
Creation of a central agency to aid railroads financing.

TO ENFORCE DRY LAW.

Chief Executive Says Conditions of Enforcement Savor of Nationwide Scandal.

Washington.—President Harding, in his annual message, delivered to Congress in person, deals with nearly a score of subjects, chief among them prohibition, farm credits, the transportation problem, child labor and immigration.

President Harding tackled first the farm problem, recommending credit legislation by enlarging the powers of the farm loan board to provide ample agricultural and live stock "production credits."

The executive announced his purpose to invite the governors of the states and territories to an early conference with the federal executive authority with a view to adopting definite policies of national and state co-operation in administering the prohibition laws. He says the day is unlikely to come when the prohibition amendment will be repealed and that the nation should adopt its course accordingly.

He warned those who evade the prohibition law they are undermining the moral fiber of the republic.
He characterized the present enforcement as "a nationwide scandal" and "the most demoralizing factor of our national life."

More extended credit for the farmers is strongly urged by the executive, who declares that the very proof of helplessness already given is the strongest argument for the permanent establishment of widened credits. He says the farm loan bureau may well have its powers enlarged to provide ample farm production credits, as well as enlarged land credits.

More Credit for Farmers.

Two constitutional amendments are proposed. One would give Congress authority over child labor and the other would restrict the issue of tax-exempt securities, which are declared to be "drying up the sources of federal taxation and encouraging unproductive and extravagant expenditures by states and municipalities."

Registration of Aliens.

Enactment of legislation providing for registration of aliens and for more thorough examination of emigrants at the ports of embarkation is urged. The President says there is a "recrudescence of hyphenated Americanism which we thought to have been stamped out when we committed the nation, life and soul to the World War," and adds that advocates of revolution are abusing the hospitality of American shores, "finding their deluded followers among those who take on the habiliments of an American without knowing an American soul."

Registration of aliens, the President adds, will enable the nation to guard against abuses in immigration, checking the undesirable whose irregular coming is his first violation of the law and, at the same time, will facilitate the needed Americanizing of those who mean to enroll as citizens.

Dealing with foreign affairs, Mr. Harding tells Congress that American relations are not only free from every threatening cloud, but the country has contributed its "larger influence" toward making marked conflicts less likely.

The President pointed to the arms conference, to the recent Tacna-Arica conference and to the Central American conference now sitting in Washington as evidences of America's de-

sire to promote international understanding.

Would Abolish Railway Labor Board.

With regard to the transportation problem, Mr. Harding proposes that the railroad labor board be abolished with the substitution of a labor division in the Interstate Commerce Commission with ample power to require its rulings to be accepted by both parties to a disputed question. The executive also proposes that the law require the carriers and their employees to institute means and methods to negotiate between themselves their constantly arising differences, limiting appeals to the government body to disputes of such character as are likely to affect the public.

Calls Attention to Readjustments.

The President began his address by calling the attention of Congress to general world conditions, which, he said, still were seriously disturbed as a result of the war. He asserted that "the inevitable readjustment of the social and economic order is not more than barely begun," and continued:

"There never again will be precisely the old order; indeed, I know of no one who thinks it to be desirable. For out of the old order came the war itself and the new order, established and made secure, never will permit its recurrence."

"It is no figure of speech to say we have come to the test of our civilization. The world has been passing—is today passing—through a great crisis. The conduct of war itself is not more difficult than the solution of the problems which necessarily follow. I am not speaking at this moment of the problem in its wider aspects of world rehabilitation, or of international relationships. The reference is to our own social, financial and economic problems at home. These things are not to be considered solely as problems apart from all international relationship, but every nation must be able to carry on for itself, else its international relationship will have scant importance."

"Doubtless our own people have emerged from the World War tumult less impaired than most belligerent powers; probably we have made larger progress toward reconstruction. Had we escaped the coal and railway strikes, which had no excuse for their beginning and less justification for their delayed settlement, we should have done infinitely better. But labor was insistent in holding to the war heights and heedless forces of reaction sought the prewar levels, and both were wrong."

Rail Strike Hurt Agriculture.

"The railway strike accentuated the difficulty of the American farmer. The first distress of readjustment came to the farmer, and it will not be a readjustment fit to abide until he is relieved. The distress brought to the farmer does not affect him alone. Agricultural ill fortune is a national ill fortune."

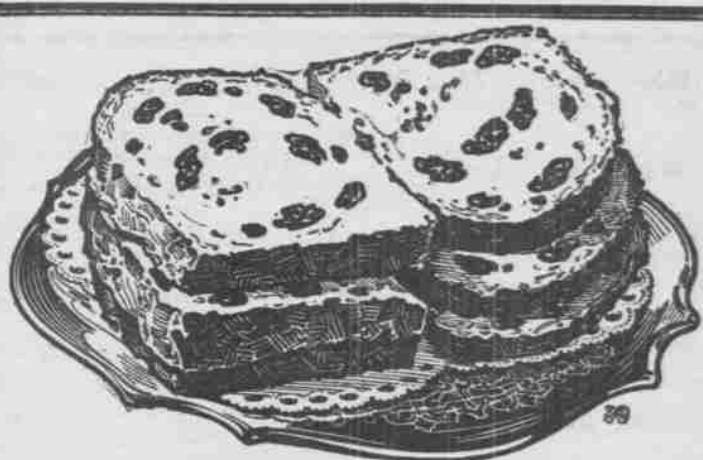
"This Congress already has taken cognizance of the misfortune which precipitate deflation brought to American agriculture. Your measures of relief and the reduction of the federal reserve discount rate undoubtedly saved the country from widespread disaster. The very proof of helplessness already given is the strongest argument for the permanent establishment of widened credit, heretofore temporarily extended through the War Finance Corporation."

Enlarge Scope of Farm Loan Bureau.

"The farm loan bureau, which already has proven its usefulness through the federal land banks, may well have its powers enlarged to provide ample farm production credits as well as enlarged land credits. It is entirely practical to create a division in the federal land banks to deal with production credits, with the limitations of time so adjusted to the farm turnover as the federal reserve system provides for the turnover in the manufacturing and mercantile world. Special provision must be made for live stock production credits and the limit of land loans may be safely enlarged. Various measures are pending before you and the best judgment of Congress ought to be expressed in a prompt enactment at the present session."

Appeals for Treaty Ratification.

"But American agriculture needs more than added credit facilities. The credits will help to solve the pressing problems growing out of war-inflated land values and the drastic deflation of three years ago, but permanent and deserved agricultural good fortune depends on better and cheaper transportation. Here is an outstanding problem demanding the most rigorous consideration."



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